

# **EXHIBIT 8**

***Declaration of Patrick M. Mincey in Support  
of Plaintiff's Motion for Attorneys' Fees***

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4. I have extensive experience in complex business disputes, government enforcement and investigations of global scope. A full and accurate representation of my *curriculum vitae* is available on my law firm's website at <https://www.cshlaw.com/attorneys/patrick-mincey/>.

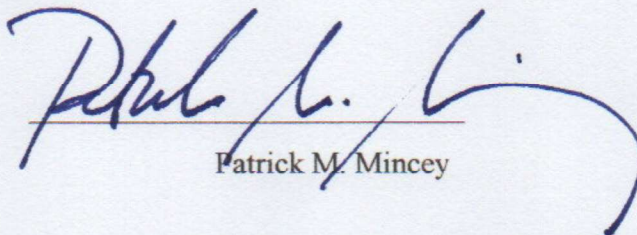
5. As a result of my litigation experience, I am knowledgeable about prevailing rates charged by attorneys in the Eastern District of North Carolina. I have been asked by attorneys at the Institute for Justice to provide my opinion regarding the reasonableness of the hourly rate sought by their *pro bono* lawyers in connection with the fee application in the above-captioned case.

6. I have been provided with information by counsel for the Movants in this action, and I base my opinions on that information. Specifically, I have reviewed the respective Declarations of Messrs. Robert McNamara and Joseph Gay that are to be submitted in connection with this motion, in which these attorneys detail their respective legal experience.

7. Based upon my knowledge of the local legal market, it is my opinion that a reasonable range of hourly rates for an attorney of Messrs. McNamara's and Gay's experience would be \$750 to \$795 per hour. It is also my opinion that a reasonable paralegal rate would be \$295 per hour.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 16th day of February, 2024.

  
Patrick M. Mincey